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Follow the money

Multipronged approach suggested for monitoring election expenses

For effective monitoring of the election expenditure of the candidates during Karnataka polls, the Excise Department has been asked to monitor production, distribution, sale and storage of liquor.

Moreover, Air Intelligence Units will take necessary action to check movement of large sums of money.

The functioning and operations of the flying squads or mobile teams shall be closely monitored using GPS Tracking or the c-VIGIL App.

For greater transparency and ease of monitoring of election expenses, candidates would be required to open a separate bank account and incur their election expenses from only that account.

The Investigation Directorate of Income Tax Department has been asked to activate Air Intelligence Units in the airports of the state and also to gather intelligence and take necessary action to check the movement of large sums of money in the state.

As per the poll panel, district election officers (DEOs) have been directed to obtain unusual and suspicious cash withdrawal or deposit of cash exceeding Rs 1 lakh from banks for due verification followed by the necessary action.

If the amount is more than Rs 10 lakh, then DEOs shall pass on such information to the Income Tax Department for necessary action.

For the purpose of maintaining purity of elections, the Election Commission has issued a Standard Operating Procedure for Flying Squads and Static Surveillance Teams constituted for keeping vigil over excessive campaign expenses, distribution of items of bribe in cash or in kind, movement of illegal arms, ammunition, liquor, or anti-social elements in the constituencies during election process.

Officials search vehicles at a highway checkpost in the city on Thursday

POLL VAULT

Officials said that it has come to the notice of the Commission that the candidates take permission from the Returning Officer (RO) for use of vehicles for campaign purposes but some candidates do not show the vehicle hiring charges or fuel expenses in their election expenditure account.

Therefore, it has been decided that unless the candidate informs the RO regarding withdrawing vehicles from campaigning, the notional expenditure on account of campaign vehicles will be calculated based on the number of vehicles for which permission has been granted by the RO. – IANS

Rowdy sheeter being kept out of city

With the Karnataka assembly polls approaching, rowdy sheeter Wilson Garden Naga has been asked to stay out of the city until the election is over. West Division DCP directed his deportation. After the election, he can enter the city only with police supervision. Ahead of the elections, the police have started issuing warnings to rowdy sheeters in Bengaluru. There is a long list of criminal cases against Naga, including robbery and murder. A case of robbery under IPC Section 392 was registered against him in Siddapura police station. In 2005, RR Nagar, Adugodi, and Banashankari police had registered several vehicle theft cases against him. In 2009, the Kalasipalya police registered a case of murder against him. In 2012, another case was registered against him for murder (of another rowdy sheeter).

Heading out to vote? Check parking status

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One of the common questions citizens have while heading out to exercising their vote is to know about the availability of parking space. For the Karnataka assembly elections 2023 scheduled for May 10, voters can check parking availability beforehand.

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath (also the district election officer) said, "Our team is coming up with an app where people can check the queue at polling booths and availability of parking spaces in real time. We hope these measures will convince people to head out of home and go vote."

With a focus on tech-savvy voters in the city, the Election Commission (EC) has introduced several apps to help voters access various facilities and identify their polling booths.

NVSP & Voter Portal:

NVSP offers users access to various services such as the electoral list, applying for a voter ID card, online correction of voter's card, details of polling booths, assembly and parliamentary constituencies, and contact information of booth level officers and electoral registration officers. Similarly, the Voter Portal provides a seamless interface for voter registration, alteration of entries, deletion, change of address, and more. Upon logging in, the user is presented with an interactive interface based on their previous selection.

Know Your Candidate (KYC) Application:

The EC has developed the Know Your Candidate (KYC) app for both Android and iOS platforms to inform citizens about the "Criminal Antecedents" status of candidates.

Voter Helpline App (VHA):

Citizens can use the Voter Helpline App to apply for a voter ID card, for online correction of the card, to view details of polling booths, and so on.

Saksham-ECI App:

The Saksham-ECI App is an upgraded version of the former PwD App, designed for individuals with disabilities. PwD electors can use the app to make requests to mark themselves as PwD, request migration, request a wheelchair, and more.

Booth App:

The Booth App is an integrated app within the ENCORE application, created to expedite voter identification using encrypted QR codes from digital marked copies of electors.

Suvidha Candidate App:

In response to covid, the EC directed that allocation of public spaces for political meetings and rallies must be done using the Suvidha app whenever possible.

GARUDA App:

The GARUDA app was developed by the EC's in-house IT team with the sole purpose of assisting BLOs by integrating all the functions of the BLOs in one place. Some components of the app include field verification by BLO, the collection of AMF and EMF, the capturing of GIS coordinates of the polling location, and the ability for the BLO to take actual photos and addresses of the electors.

Candidate Online Nomination:

To facilitate the filing of nominations, the EC has introduced an online portal for candidates to fill out the nomination and affidavit forms. Candidates can create an account, fill out the nomination form, deposit the security amount, and plan their visit to the Returning Officer accordingly. Once the application is filled out through the online portal, the candidate only needs to take a printout, get it notarised, and submit it along with relevant documents to the Returning Officer in person.

Ensuring 'child-friendly' assembly elections

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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The forthcoming elections to the Karnataka State Assembly are expected to be child-friendly. The Deputy Commissioners of 31 districts across the state have issued orders to the Superintendent of Police, District Election Officers, and Deputy Directors of the Women and Child Development Department to ensure that no exploitation of children occurs during the polls.

The Deputy Commissioner of Chikmagalur issued an order on March 27, directing officers involved in ensuring free and fair elections to the state assembly and to see that no political party uses children for election campaign purposes. "The Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights wrote a letter about political parties using children during the election campaign. I advise you to keep a vigil on using children in the election campaign and ensure that no complaints arise in this regard," the order read.

In a letter, Nagasimha G Rao, director, Child Rights Trust, said today's children are tomorrow's citizens

Based on a letter written by Nagasimha G Rao, Director of Child Rights Trust, the Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights issued a circular on March 18 to the Chief Electoral Officer Karnataka, requesting the issuance of directions to the concerned authorities on measures to prevent political parties from using children for their election campaigns.

The state commission recommended issuing directions to political parties regarding the same. The other recommendation made was to issue notices to political parties to file affidavits stating that they would not use children in the elections and open a helpline for lodging complaints if political parties do use children for campaign purposes.

Nagasimha G Rao, director of Child Rights Trust, wrote a letter to the commission on March 17. "I am very happy that the Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, based on my letter, has issued an order to the Chief Electoral Officer advising him to issue necessary directions to the Deputy Commissioners and others to ensure political parties do not use children in elections. I want the orders issued by the respective Deputy Commissioners to ensure that the elections to the State Assembly are children-friendly. Political parties should not forget that today's children are tomorrow's citizens," said Rao.

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CITY PAGE 2

Save UVCE Students, parents, teaching staff stage protest demanding release of funds

Home front Property tax should be based on area and not slabs, site owners say

CITY PAGE 5

How Bengaluru is failing in upkeep of public infra — beneath flyovers, in stormwater drains, around trash transfer stations, almost everywhere...

THIS IS NUTS

Tender coconut shells dumped beside storm drain near Domlur Flyover

Melvin Mathew
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The space under Domlur Flyover is in a state of disarray. While the flyover remains an essential link between Koramangala, Indiranagar and Old Airport Road, debris dumping, sewage inflow into the stormwater drain and an ill-maintained waste transfer station have turned the place into a hellish nightmare of a sight over the years.

After spending a big chunk of taxpayers' money on flyovers, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike seems to be forgetting about maintaining flyovers, especially the spaces under these structures.

Under the Domlur Flyover, runs a stormwater drain that eventually connects to Bellandur Lake. The stormwater drain is carrying visibly polluted water and has plastic debris floating on the surface. Additionally, a portion beside the stormwater drain is dumped with tender coconut shells and construction and demolition debris.

A slight rain could wash all the waste into the stormwater drain leading to either blockage, flooding or reduction of the water holding capacity of the channel.

On the other side, towards Carlton Towers, adjacent to the flyover, is a waste transfer station which too has turned an eyesore now. The smell of rotting garbage is

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

"Upper part of the stormwater drain traversing Domlur 2nd Stage, Cambridge Layout and Ulsoor would get flooded during the rainy season. Drain needs to be cleaned and retaining wall should be erected
— Dr Laxminarayan Gundappa, former corporator, Domlur

Strays count

Civic body finalising modalities for dog census; to rope in veterinary students

Garima Prasher
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The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) is all set to get started with the much-awaited dog census in the city from the third week of April.

This time, the civic agency has decided to conduct the census over a short period - of a couple of days. Officials said this is to ensure a true representation of the urban stray dog population.

BBMP conducted the last dog census in the city in 2018; it recorded 3.09 lakh stray dogs as against 1.85 lakh strays in 2012 and 1.83 lakh in 2007.

The civic body said it is currently finalising the modalities of the census and looking at involving students from the veterinary college in Hebbal for the exercise.

"The census will begin in mid-April and will be conducted by the officials from the animal husbandry department along with the students from the veterinary college in Hebbal. It is going to be a large exercise; thus a lot of planning is required, which is going on

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2 »

2 THINGS TO DO

01 Film for thought

TAt a time when we are spoilt for choice on what to watch, the best movies don't make it to streaming. And nothing beats the communal experience of watching a movie together. This month we will be screening "Under The Silver Lake" (2018). Sam is a disenchanted 33-year-old who discovers a mysterious woman, Sarah, frolicking in his apartment's swimming pool. When she vanishes, Sam embarks on a surreal quest across Los Angeles to decode the secret behind her disappearance, leading him into the murkiest depths of mystery, scandal, and conspiracy in the City of Angels.
Where: Atta Galatta; When: March 31, 7 PM– 9:30 PM; contact: 9964826055

02 Paradoxical questions

Dancer Navia Natarajan presents her latest Solo production titled "Virodhabhasa – Paradox". The world we inhabit is itself a paradox for it is both real and an appearance: Maya. And so, to better appreciate this world, one needs to look more deeply at what seems like opposites or contradictions. This work is Navia Natarajan's ongoing attempt to investigate the profound nature of Paradox.
Where: Bangalore International Centre; When: April 7, 7 pm; Info: 9538015436

A happy start

Whitefield Honda celebrated 25 years of excellence with the grand opening of the recently inaugurated showroom. The inauguration was attended by Takuya Tsumura San, President & CEO, HCIL, Yuichi Murata Director, Marketing & Sales, HCIL, Kunal Behl VP – Marketing & Sales, HCIL, Minisuri, Managing Director, and Ramdas M, Business Head Whitefield Honda.

'Provide funds to college, pay salaries of staffers'

Lecturers, parents, and students of University Visvesvaraya Engineering College want government to prioritise the institution by providing funding

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Protestors gathered at Freedom Park on Thursday hold placards and posters against the govt

Hundreds of lecturers, parents, and students of University Visvesvaraya Engineering College (UVCE) gathered at Freedom Park in Bengaluru on Thursday to protest against the recent decisions made by the state government that has been putting the college in a state of crisis.

The protest, led by the Bengaluru District Committee of the All India Democratic Students' Organisation (AIDSO), called for the government to prioritise saving the prestigious and historic UVCE.

The students demanded that the government take immediate steps to provide funds to the college and ensure that salaries are paid to the staff. They also called on the government to stop the privatisation of UVCE and maintain its status as a government college. The students also stated that they wouldn't cast their votes in the upcoming elections, if the government does not take action in solving the current issue.

State Secretary of AIDSO Karnataka, Ajay Kamath, who was part of the protest, expressed his opposition to the government's decision to privatise the government college in the name of development and autonomy. "The government has completely forgotten its responsibility by not providing funds to the college, not paying salaries to the lecturers, and not taking measures for overall educational development of the college. We students should fight to save the UVCE college for the next generation," he said.

Abhaya Diwakar, the AIDSO Bengaluru District President added that UVCE, which was an affiliate of Bangalore University, was separated from it after the government announced that it would be made an autonomous institute. The government's decision has left the college facing one crisis after another, with no funds provided for the management of the college and lecturers going without salaries from March. The government has neither sanctioned funds to UVCE nor the Bangalore University to pay the staff salaries. These developments are of great anxiety and uncertainty about the future, among thousands of students and college staff.

> **"Govt must take full financial responsibility of college management to protect the institution** – Kalyan Kumar, District Secretary, AIDSO

Kalyan Kumar, the AIDSO District Secretary, presided over the protest meeting and stressed the importance of UVCE's founding objective of providing quality education to thousands of poor students. "The government must take full financial responsibility of the college management, so that this great institution is not in danger. Students, parents, and teachers should fight against such anti-educational, anti-student policies," he said.

The students also highlighted the contributions of Sir M Visvesvaraya, the founder of UVCE, in providing quality education to students from all backgrounds. "The government's decision to gradually privatise the college has caused great concern among the students, staff, and alumni of UVCE, who fear that the college's founding objective of providing affordable and accessible education to all will be compromised," added Kumar.

Dog census in April

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

currently," said BBMP special commissioner (health) Dr KV Trilok Chandra.

According to officials, since the census will be conducted by students from the veterinary college, an orientation session will also be held to ensure that all the teams and members are on the same page.

"We will soon be conducting an orientation session for the students who will participate in the process. The students will work together with BBMP's assistant directors from the animal husbandry department and they will complete the census under the latter's supervision," said a senior official.

"Street dogs are migratory and if we conduct the census over a longer period, the dogs may end up shifting from one ward to the other. This will not be the true representation of the population," Dr Chandra told BM.

Since the last census was conducted nearly five years ago, the results of the upcoming exercise will also be useful in analysing the efficacy of the Palike's ongoing ABC/ARV programmes.

"Last census was done more than four years ago; we need to know the current population of street dogs in the city. This will help us in floating new tenders for our ABC programme as we need to specify new targets for our service providers. The actual number will help us in conducting ABC/ARV programmes more efficiently," added Dr Chandra.

Animal welfare activists in Bengaluru said while it is a welcome move, the agency should look at deploying the right technology for a better outcome.

"It is a welcome initiative and is heartening to see the involvement of young veterinary students. What would be great is if BBMP could ensure they have the right tech environment to capture and record the data. Bengaluru being the tech capital of the country with AI and data analytics experts, BBMP can get the help of analytics practitioners to build predictive models that would take us closer to the result and help implement a more thorough ABC and ARV programmes," said Harini Raghavan, Citizens for Animal Birth Control.

Not for the record: Objectionable video fracas at SAI

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A volleyball player is accused of taking a video of her fellow athlete while she was bathing at the Sports Authority of India (SAI) in Mallathahalli on Monday night. The athlete whose video was recorded has lodged a complaint at Jnanabharathi station.

A police official said that the players were training in SAI. While the taekwondo player was taking a bath, the accused is said to have recorded.

"The victim smashed the mobile phone after she came to know about the offensive video. Later, she also filed a police complaint. A case has been registered under IPC Section 354 and IT Act," said Deputy Commissioner of Police (DCP) West Division B Nimbargi.

According to SAI sources, after the victim saw that the video was being recorded, she confronted the accused and smashed her phone. The taekwondo player said that there is a suspicion that the video was made and sent to someone else. The police have seized the mobile phone and are interrogating the accused.

Bikers die after colliding into divider

Two persons died after they crashed their bike into a road divider as they were on their way to the Kempegowda International Airport via Yelahanka.

The two had left for the airport

CRIME FILES

on a bike at 9.30 am on Wednesday. The rider was going fast as they were late for the flight. On the way, they crashed into the divider near Coffee Day in Yelahanka on Bellary Road. According to the sources, the rider died on the spot, while the pillion rider died in the hospital.

The deceased have been identified as Guru Raj and Jug Raj Prahapat.

"There was not much traffic on Airport Road this morning so the rider was going fast. When he noticed that another vehicle was moving slowly in front of him, he tried to overtake it and lost control of the bike and hit the divider," said the police.

The bodies of the two have been sent to the Yelahanka Government Hospital.

FIR against auto union leader

An FIR has been filed against Auto Union leader Raghu Gowda in Cottonpet Police station under section 506 of IPC. The FIR was after Raghu threatened bike taxi drivers and encouraged auto drivers to abuse bike taxi drivers. The video was uploaded on social media and after that the city witnessed multiple incidents of manhandling and threatening of bike taxi riders by the auto union members.

Toll plaza workers assault motorist

Workers at the Kaniminike toll plaza of Bengaluru Mysuru Expressway assaulted a motorist, late on Wednesday night.

Vishwanath, a resident of Thanisandra, was going to Mysuru from Bengaluru when he got into an argument with the toll staff regarding the non-reduction of money in Fast Tag. Soon the fight turned violent, and the toll staff got together and beat up Vishwanath.

The scene of the attack was captured on CCTV cameras. A case has been registered in Kumbalgodu police station in this regard.

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Illegal slaughter house busted; cattle rescued

Police say court permission is awaited to shift cattle to goushalas

Animal activists said BBMP officials must show urgency towards the issue of stray cattle roaming around on the city's streets too

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The KR Puram police busted an illegal slaughter house being operated at Devasandra on the outskirts of the city and rescued 25 cows. The police officials got a tip off and went with a team to the spot where they found 25 cows and carcasses of some dead cattle.

The police immediately seized the cattle and arrested two individuals running the illegal slaughter house. The case was booked under The Karnataka Prevention of Cow Slaughter and Cattle Prevention Act.

A police official from KR puram police said, "We were alerted and rushed to the spot with the team. We arrested the individuals immediately. Without proper permissions or following guidelines, slaughter houses are not allowed to run. The animals were shifted to a land near our police station. We are awaiting the court's permission to shift them to the gaushala."

Animal activists appreciated the police's quick action. "Any slaughter that happens has to be in a slaughter house registered by the government. Even at the time of slaughter, a government veterinarian doctor should check on the health of the cattle and then allow it to be slaughtered. It is advisable to obtain FSSAI License for the ones operating a meat shop," said Tarun Agarwal, Anti-Cruelty Officer- PfA.

Animal activists pointed out that there are more such cases all over the city where illegal dog breeding spaces and slaughterhouses are operating, but no such action is taken. "This is one of the very few cases where the police came forward to crack down. It is indeed a great effort by Manjunath, the police official at KR Puram police station. He even reached out to us to get some assistance on the process," added Agarwal.

Animal activists also pointed to the issue of cattle found moving around the city on the roads. These are supposed to be taken to the gaushalas. "The BBMP officials state that if unattended cattle are found on the road, they should be informed at the call centre. But even if we call them, the officers do not take any action. Most of the time, the BBMP workers say they do not have a vehicle so the issue is left unattended to," said an activist.

> **"Without permits or following norms, slaughter houses are not allowed to run** –KR Puram police official

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Work in process

The state generates approximately 9,532 metric tonnes (MT) of municipal solid waste every day; however, not all of it ends up being processed

Karnataka processes about 88% of its waste, but that is not enough..

Sridhar Vivan
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Karnataka generates 9,532 metric tonnes (MT) of municipal solid waste per day, of which 88 per cent is processed. While the state's processing rate is above the national average of 78 per cent it is still significantly behind states and union territories such as Chandigarh and Dadra Nagar Haveli, which have achieved 100 per cent processing, and even Delhi, which has achieved 92 per ent processing. Overall, 1.52 lakh MT of waste is generated in the country every day, with the highest waste generators being Maharashtra (23,097 MT), followed by Uttar Pradesh (17,250), Tamil Nadu (14,862), Telangana (10,857), and Delhi (10,028).

Although the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) was launched with much fanfare on October 2, 2014, with the objective of scientifically processing all Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) generated, many states, including Karnataka, are lagging behind in achieving 100 per cent processing of waste. SBM-U 2.0 was launched on October 1, 2021, for a period of five years, up to October 1, 2026.

It aims to achieve 'garbage free' status for all cities through 100 per cent source segregation, door-to-door collection, scientific management of all fractions of waste, and safe disposal in scientific landfills. It also hopes to remediate all legacy dumpsites and convert them into green zones.

Sriram G, an urban planner, said, "Cities like Bengaluru are at the forefront of waste generation. However, Bengaluru fares poorly when it comes to collection, segregation, and processing. Despite the tall claims made by the BBMP about litter-free roads, garbage continues to lie on roads.

> **"Cities like Bengaluru are at the forefront of waste generation. However, we fare poorly when it comes to segregation, processing**
> – Sriram G, urban planner

It is a clear failure of authorities to ensure 100 per cent waste collection. If there is adequate door-to-door waste collection, why would people walk a certain distance to throw waste? It is high time waste generation is made foolproof."

In the Lok Sabha, Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs Kaushal Kishore recently said, "Various steps have been taken by the government to guide the states on efficient Municipal Solid Waste Management (MSWM) Processing. The state governments/union territory (UT) administrations submit their component-wise City Solid Waste Action Plans (CSWAP), on the basis of which, central assistance under the Solid Waste Management (SWM) component is released. Various manuals and advisories have been brought out covering all aspects of SWM, including planning, designing, operation, and maintenance.

Garbage-Free Star Rating Protocol to assess the city's municipal solid waste management by third-party verification and various capacity building & IEC initiatives have been rolled out."

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Clearance needed

Jayanagar

Garbage has not been cleared from Jayanagar 4th block, 7th main road.

Restore road

Thirupalya Road

A stretch was dug up on Thirupalya Road, Electronic City but has not been restored yet.

Stinking mess under Domlur flyover

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

evident as one enters the area; commercial establishments in the vicinity continue to have a tough time keeping customers. When it rains and floods, leachate from the area flows into adjoining streets. Former Domlur corporator Dr Laxminarayan Gundappa told BM that the drain needs a retaining wall.

"Miscreants are throwing tender coconut shells from the flyover and roadside into the stormwater drain. Without a retaining wall, all the refuse will go into the drain. Furthermore, the upper part of the stormwater drain traversing Domlur 2nd Stage, Cambridge Layout and Ulsoor would get flooded during the rainy season. The stormwater drain needs to be cleaned and the retaining wall should be erected," he said.

Bangalore Political Action Committee (B.PAC) CEO Revathy Ashok said waste collection centres cannot be treated like dump yards and should be dealt with in a scientific manner: "The apartments surrounding the drain should be stopped from letting sewage into the drain. We have brought it to the attention of the authorities but the progress has been slow. Debris dumping seems to be a problem around the area."

Naresh Narasimhan, who is working on the K-100 project, told BM that sewage inflow is primarily due to the apartments that have refused to take UGD (underground drainage) lines. "Additionally, the place has gained a reputation for being a garbage dumping spot. People have forgotten that it's a rajakaluve and mistake it for an open sewage drain. They don't realise that debris and garbage dumping will lead to flooding of their own area," he added. A regular commuter to the area and a resident of Koramangala, Vijay Menon, told BM that while he is aware of the problem, the solution lies with ward committees: "Solutions to such problems can only come with a strong ward committee.

The government should emphasise, empower and fund ward committees to make them effective. If citizens keep expecting BBMP to clear the stretch, it might not happen. Residents should bring it up in WCs and respective authorities should take up the issue," he added.

A small step ahead for BBMP school students

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike has called a tender for the supply of shoes, socks and bags for the year 2023-24 for BBMP schools.

The move comes after several complaints were made over delays in the supply of shoes, socks and bags, BBMP is also geared up to make good on its promises ahead of the academic year. Palike has called three separate tenders for the supply of bags for schools and colleges, black shoes with socks, and shoes with socks.

This year, Palike will distribute 17,677 black colour shoes with socks, 24,359 brown canvas shoes with socks and 25,698 bags. The following will be supplied to the 93 nursery schools, 16 primary schools, 33 high schools, 18 PU colleges and 4-degree colleges.

Palike will supply 5,466 black shoes with socks to students studying in 93 nursery schools, 3,906 units to 16 Primary schools, and 8,305 units to 33 BBMP high schools. The tender has been called for an earnest money deposit (EMD) of Rs 1,52,376.

They will also supply 5,466 brown canvas shoes with socks to students studying in 93 nursery schools, 3,906 units to 16 primary schools, 8,305 units to 33 BBMP high schools and 6,682 units to 18 PU colleges. The tender has been floated for EMD amount of Rs 2,05,590.

Move comes after complaints over delay in supply of equipment

Palike has also decided to supply school bags to students studying in schools and colleges. Palike will supply 5,466 bags to students studying in 93 nursery schools, 3,906 units to 16 Primary schools, 8,305 units to 33 BBMP high schools, 6,682, units to 18 PU colleges and 1,339 units to four BBMP Degree Colleges. The tender has been floated for an EMD amount of Rs 2,15,638.5. The bags will be made of 100 per cent polyester with ULY coating with four compartments, two front pockets and one bottle pocket.

As per the tender, all commodities have to be supplied to the BBMP schools and colleges within 30 days of the supply order.

Senior assistant director of the BBMP's Education Department, B Hanumanthaiah said, "We have called a fresh tender for supply of shoes, socks and bags for this year. We have completed distributing all the items pending from last year as well."

Education activists commended Palike's preparedness for the academic year. Nagasimha G Rao, Director of Child Rights Trust, said, "The efforts by the Palike to be prepared for the upcoming academic year is commendable. Often the academic year starts and students struggle without textbooks, sweaters, shoes and socks."

Series of developments for BDA recently

Citizens peeved over unfair property tax

People say property tax should be based on area and not slabs

At Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout, BDA collects property tax based on different slabs

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Generally, norms say that property tax is fixed based on the total area in the city. However, the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) has been collecting property based on slab systems. If a site allottee got a few square metres more than the site that comes under the first slab, he/she has to pay the tax fixed for the second slab that is almost double the amount.

This slab system is affecting those who bought corner sites in public auctions. For example, the BDA fixed Rs 900 for a site measuring 9x12 sq mts (108 sq mts). The next slab is 12x18 sq mt and the property tax for this site is around Rs 1,800.

If a person bought a corner site or normal site at an auction and if that site is slightly bigger than the site that comes under the first slab, the site owner has to pay the property tax fixed for the sites under the second slab category.

> **Instead of collecting the property tax for the total area, the BDA revenue authorities are collecting higher tax from the property owners**
>
> –Varun, a site owner at Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout

"Instead of collecting the property tax for the total area on square metre or square feet basis, the BDA revenue authorities are collecting higher tax from the property owners. I bought a corner site at a public auction. The site size is slightly bigger than the site that comes under the first slab (6x9 sq mts). The BDA revenue authorities collected double the amount equal to the second slab from me," said Varun, a site owner at Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout.

Expressing a similar opinion, Santosh, who owns a site at the layout, said that he too paid double in property tax. "Though the total amount is a few thousands of rupees, it is not fair for the BDA revenue authorities to collect the property tax under the slab system," said Santosh.

There are sites in different sizes at the Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout. The BDA collects property tax under the slabs measuring 6x9 sq mts, 9x12 sq mts, 12x18 sq mts, 15x24 sq mts and above.

"If the BDA continues to collect property tax under the slab system, it will have an adverse impact on the site owners when they construct buildings," said Surya Kiran, spokesperson of Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout Open Forum.

Meanwhile, the BDA floated a tender for the construction of an underpass and cast in-situ box with retaining wall for service road on both sides and connecting approach road at an estimated cost of Rs 3,745.19 lakh. The BDA has fixed 18 months including monsoon for the completion of the work.

BDA's money woes a thing of the past

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesgroup.com

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Officials at the Bangalore Development Authority (BDA) can finally heave a sigh of relief. Ever since the pending bills for the developmental works were cleared, and middlemen removed, the body has become financially stronger, according to BDA chairman Vishwanath SR.

"The BDA has cleared a loan of Rs 185.11 crore availed from a bank. The BDA has become economically reliant by auctioning sites. As of now, the BDA has Rs 1,012 crore and it has also released Rs 2,495.80 crore for the developmental work ongoing at various layouts. In November 2020, the BDA had only Rs 260.20 crore but now it has Rs 1,012 crore," said Vishwanath.

The BDA chairman has said the BDA has sold 3,735 sites through public auction and earned Rs 3,553 crore. He has claimed of having wiped out middlemen menace on the BDA Head Office premises. "Many middlemen were active at the BDA Head Office. Now, the BDA Head Office is free from middlemen," the BDA chairman said.

He also claimed to have strengthened the BDA legal cell. There were some advocates who colluded with the litigants and made the BDA to lose land-related cases. There were 93 people with the legal cell. After assuming office, a decision was taken to remove all the people working with the legal cell.

He said the BDA has released Rs 1,361 crore for the developmental works at Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout and Rs 360 crore for Arkavathy Layout in the last two years. "The BDA has taken up the construction of the stadium at Sarvagna Nagar at an estimated cost of Rs 9.31 crore and the construction of the stadium is expected to be completed in 18 months. The BDA has released Rs 6.30 crore for the renovation of karaga mantapa at Sri Kanteerava Stadium," he said.

He also claimed that the sale of flats has increased. "After assuming office, I visited most of the BDA residential complexes and directed the officials to take measures for acquiring the land for the road connectivity," he said.

He said the BDA has commenced the development of Dr Shivaram Karanth Layout at an estimated cost of Rs 5,337 crore (including land acquisition) and the plan is to distribute 22,000 sites for the general public and farmers who gave land for the formation of the layout.

BDA said it has released Rs 1,361 crore for the development work at Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Layout

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Taxing time for Anushka

The Bombay High Court on Thursday refused relief to actor Anushka Sharma and disposed of her petitions challenging orders passed by the state Sales Tax department demanding tax for assessment years between 2012 to 2016 under the Maharashtra Value Added Tax Act. A division bench of Justices Nitin Jamdar and Abhay Ahuja said the actor had the alternate remedy of filing appeal against the orders under provisions of the Maharashtra Value Added Tax (MVAT) Act.

Sharma had filed four petitions challenging four orders passed by the Sales Tax department levying tax for assessment years 2012-13, 2013-14, 2014-15 and 2015-16 under the Act.

"Why should we entertain the petitions when the petitioner (Sharma) has a full-fledged remedy of appeal available under the Act? The statutory provision is available," the bench said.

The court, while disposing of Sharma's petitions, directed her to file an appeal before the Deputy Commissioner of Sales Tax (Appeals) within a period of four weeks. **PTI**

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I Hanumantharayappa G R/o Kolala Hobli, Koratagere Taluk Yelerampura Post Sankenahalli Koratagere, Koratagere, Tumkur, Karnataka -572129 have changed my son's name from SATHISH KUMAR S H to SATHEESHKUMAR S H for all purposes

I, KALANDAR PASHA #40,43, 7th Main, 7th B Cross, Andrhalli Main Road, Maruthinagar, Hegganahalli, , Bangalore-91. I, have changed my name to KALANDER PASHA CHAND PASHA, Vide affidavit dated 30/03/2023 Sworn before Notary: V. Rajashekhara, Bangalore

I, J.VARGHESE KISHORE No.17, Ground Floor, Chinnappanahalli Marathahalli Post, Bengaluru North-37. I, have changed my name to KISHORE JOSEPH. Vide affidavit dated 30/03/2023 Sworn before Notary: V. Rajashekhara, Bangalore

I, P Chandrashekar S/o, Late.N.S Parashuraman R/o No 5, 4th Cross, A Block, Janakiram Layout, Next To Pauls School, M.S Nagar Post, Bangalore-560033, have changed my name and my father's name to Chandrashekar Parasuram S/o Late.S Parasuram for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 30/03/2023, sworn before notary C.Santhosh, Bangalore.

I, RAFIA SULTANA ABDUL RAZAQ SHARIEF, R/12, Flat No.3,G/f, National Grander Meridian, Dr,Omar Sharieff Rd, Basavanagudi, Blre -4. I, have changed my name to RAFIYA SULTHANA, Vide affidavit dated 29/03/2023 Sworn before Notary: V. Rajashekhara, Bangalore

I, Smt N. Jyothi Ahuja, W/o. T.Narayan, R/a no 6, Patalamma Layout, Vinayaka Extension, Opp. to Gowda Military Hotel, Kadugodi, B'lore 67. I have changed my name from Rita Kumari to N. Jyothi Ahuja. Vide affidavit dated 29-03-23 sworn before notary K.N. Ramadevi B'lore.

I, Prithviraju Ajila R/o No Sai-71,south Block, Vijaya Enclave,bilekahalli, Bannerghatta Road, Bangaluru-560076 have changed my minor son's name from Ajila Bharat Kumar Balthila Prithviraju to Bharat Kumar Ajila for all purposes.

I, Manjunatha Bypanahalli Nanjundappa R/o #69/16, 1st floor, Sai nivas, Anjanapura road Kembathahalli, BG Rd. B'luru 560083 have changed my name to Manjunath Bypanahalli Nanjundappa affidavit Dt.30/03/2023 notary Ganesh Gowda MV, B'luru

I, Safiya Nathani R/o No 69 old No 1244 3rd Main Road DR Ambedkar Layout Kavalbyrasandra Rt Nagar Bangalore 560032 have changed my name to Safiya Parvez Ghanchi for all purposes.

I, Syed Irfan Shafiulla R/o 13 2nd Cross Queens Road Opposite Congress Bhavan Tasker Town Bangalore 560051 have changed my name to Syed Irfan for all purposes.

I Mamta Ajaykumar Trivedi W/O, Lokesh Tripathi R/o A-402 Sls Signature Apartment Kaverappa Layout, Panathur, Bengaluru-560103 have changed my name to Mamta Trivedi

I Fauzia Khanam Sherwani W/O, Saquib Mansoor R/o 137/15 Rajanna Compound Thanisandra Bangalore 560077 have changed my name to Fauzia Sherwani

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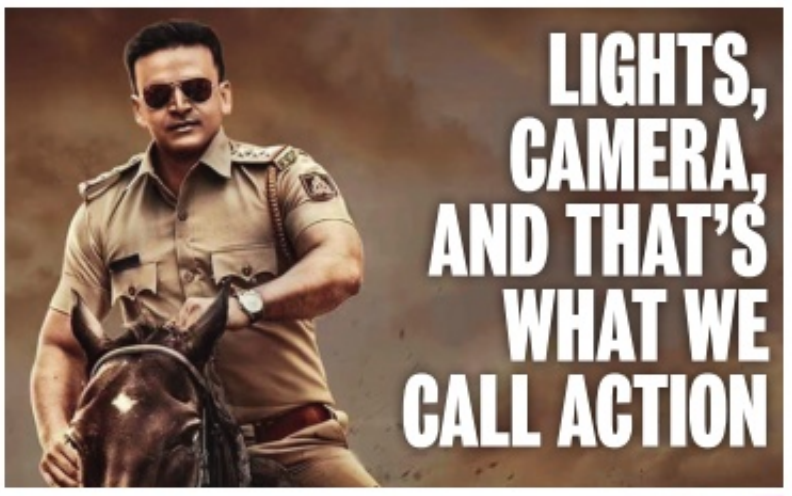


GURUDEV HOYSALA

3.5 RATING ★★★½☆

- **DIRECTOR** Vijay N
- **ACTORS** Dhananjay, Amrutha Iyengar, Naveen Shankar, Achyuth Kumar, B S Avinash, Rajesh Nataranga
- **CERTIFICATION** U/A
- **DURATION** 132 minutes

This movie, based on real incidents that took place in Belagavi, puts the spotlight on honour killings in some parts of the state. It also showcases how corrupt police officers flourish while upright police officers become victims of the powerful and affluent in society.

The film starts off with violence breaking out at Khanapur where miscreants go on a rampage and attack policemen. The policemen on duty send an SOS to their higher authorities. Gurudev Hoysala enters the scene and teaches a lesson to the miscreants. The police department deputes Gurudev wherever riots break out. Then police commissioner (Rajesh Nataranga) assigns Gurudev to probe the disappearance of police inspector Bhargav who was after the sand mafia. Gurudev is posted to Athani where Dada (BS Avinash) rules the roost.

Meanwhile, police inspector Sampath (Achyuth Kumar) brings Ravi and Bhoomi to the police station from a lodge. Without knowing their background, Gurudev arranges their marriage. At this juncture, the director tells us that Bhoomi is the daughter of Dada and the latter is not in favour of her marriage with Ravi who belongs to a lower caste. The police commissioner asks Gurudev to search for Bhoomi and hand her over to Dada. What happens to Gurudev is what the movie is about.

Dhananjay aka Natarakshasa is at his best. His performance in action scenes will be a treat for his fans. His dialogue delivery is captivating. Amrutha Iyengar has nothing to do except appearing in a few scenes.

Among the actors in villainous roles, Naveen Shankar walks away with all honours. He is convincing as a hardcore lover and vicious person who goes to any extent ruthlessly to achieve his goal. Achyuth Kumar is convincing as a corrupt police inspector. Raghu Shivamogga and BS Avinash provide good support. Mayuri Nataraj, who plays Dada's daughter, deserves appreciation. Her performance in the climax scene is super.

Dialogue writer Maathi Upparahalli also deserves a shout-out for the punchy dialogues. Music by B Ajaneesh Lokanath is good.

It is worth a watch for all you action movie lovers out there.

—Y Maheswara Reddy

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

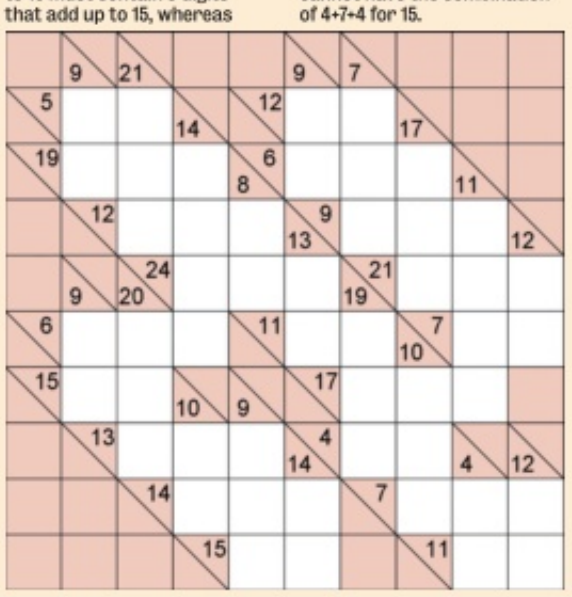
In all of the integers from 1 to 1000, how many times do the digits 1 and 2 appear side by side and in that order?

Kakuro

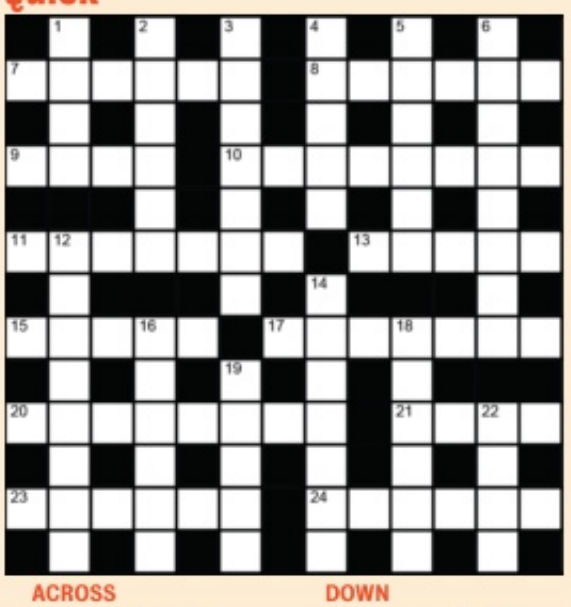
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 Bodily strength (6)
8 Capital of the Czech Republic (6)
9 Place; stead (4)
10 Pull _ __ ___ : subject someone to a cunning trick? (1,4,3)
11 Bony (7)
13 Small wood (5)
15 Rich king of legend (5)
17 Servers at a restaurant (7)
20 Type of beer (8)
21 Not in favour of (4)
23 Wise counsellor (6)
24 Long ditch (6)

DOWN

1 Japanese mountain (4)
2 Press charges (6)
3 Winged horse (7)
4 Chat show hostess ___ Winfrey (5)
5 Substance (6)
6 Gross takings (8)
12 Lively or passionate (8)
14 Theatre on Varthur Road (7)
16 Worldly goods (6)
18 Slight indications (6)
19 Tennis star Agassi (5)
22 Fabric fold (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: J EQUALS S

H QSXKUT'J JKIITJJ YHEJ UBT VHSFKAT GV ETHAJ.

Linemaro

Is that a ladder in your tights or a stairway to heaven?

Mindchow

As the twig is bent the tree inclines

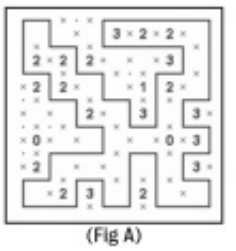
Joke of the day

Do not argue with an idiot. He will drag you down to his level and beat you with experience

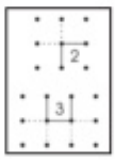
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

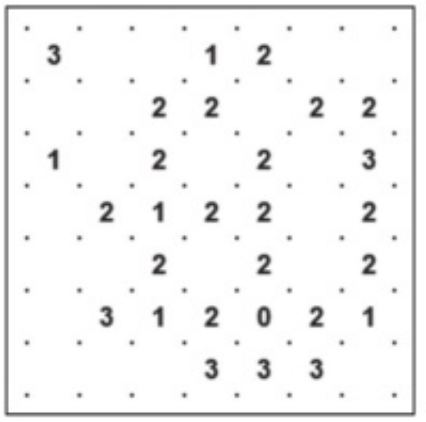


(Fig B) Not Allowed

How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

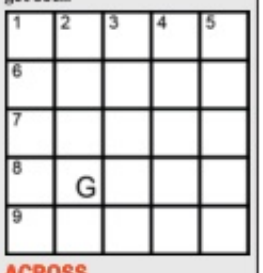


Strikeout

This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

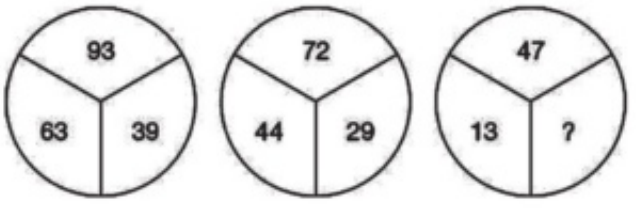
1 Dados; 6 A due l;
7 Attic; 8 Eg set;
9 Armed

DOWN

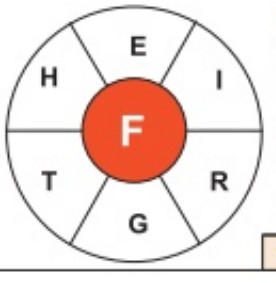
1 Dates; 2 A egad;
3 Cried; 4 Dimes;
5 A tout

Mensapuzzle

What number should replace the question mark?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; 11 Good; 13 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	4		2	5				
		9		8	4			7
	8					2		6
		3			1	7		
	5						2	
		2	7			4		
4		5					8	
6			3	7		5		
				4	6		7	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 10
4 6 9 9

Medium ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 24
1 2 4 7

Hard ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐ = 4
2 5 7 4

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

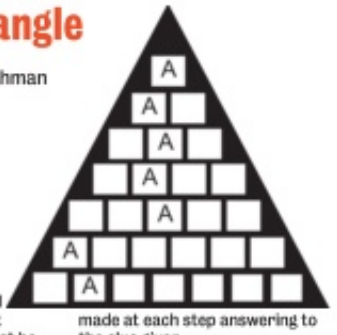
Differences: 1. Pocket on side of golf bag is smaller. 2. Bottom of shirt is different. 3. Sleeve is shorter. 4. Mouth is different. 5. Cap is different. 6. Sand trap is larger.

Riddler

1. I am always excited, 2. I tell people where things are at, 3. You can play a game on me, 4. I'm very rich, 5. I give percentages, 6. I am always looking up, 7. And....., 8. I look like a light in the sky 9. I keep things arranged that are to my right, 10. I keep things arranged that are to my left What Are We?

Alpha triangle

1 Blood gr.
2 Music director Rahman
3 Head of grain
4 Current craze
5 Glower
6 Sock pattern
7 Exhibit hall



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

Bizarrotrip

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

HEART, YOU'VE BEEN SITTING HERE PAST THE BELL FOR FIVE MINUTES. ARE YOU OKAY?
OH! SORRY!
I'M JUST TAKING IN ALL OF THE MATH.
THIS IS U.S. HISTORY, AND YOU SHOULD GO TO THE NURSE.
AUGH! WAKE UP!
SLAP! SLAP!

Crankshaft

SORRY ABOUT OUR DOORMAN SPOOKING YOU.
NO WORRIES... YOUR STORE IS FASCINATING ONCE YOU GET USED TO IT.
I'M LILLIAN MCKENZIE... YOU BOUGHT MY COMIC BOOK COLLECTION AWHILE AGO.
OF COURSE... WHAT CAN WE DO FOR YOU?
WELL, APPARENTLY I SHORTCHANGED YOU BECAUSE I FOUND THIS COMIC BOOK THAT SHOULD HAVE GONE TO YOU.
IS THAT A 'BLACK RAVEN' #1?

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may feel good, as family harmony may make you happy. You may meet some influential people to get benefits on the work front. You may perform well in your job and expect rewards in terms of promotions. Disputes over inherited property may likely settle down.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may find yourself in a state of self-analysis, which will bring some confidence to you. Your focus towards your goals is now clear, and you may achieve success in reaching your goals. Your creativity might improve, and you will take an interest in artifacts, movies, glamour, and real-life objects.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may have mixed situations around you. It is advised not to expect more from anyone around you, as it may disappoint you. You may have self-exploration and self-analysis, which may allow you to filter yourself. After the filtration process, you may feel confident and be able to prepare to accept challenges.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may feel some negativity around you, which may make you upset. You may find your responsibilities as a burden. You may be in a hurry to complete the task given to you, and you may make silly mistakes. Your working efficiency may slow down, affecting your day-to-day work.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today is a positive day for you. You may get success from your hard work on the professional front. You may have good focus and complete your work before time, which can improve your self-confidence. You may also expect some work-related short trips, which may be beneficial in the near future in terms of your network.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today, you are blessed by the moon. You may expect to get some inherited assets. You may perform with patience on the work front, which may increase your efficiency. You may be polite to the people around you. You may put less effort into day-to-day work. You may use your communication skills to get new business and progress on the work front.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you are blessed by the moon, which may give you patience. Externally, you may face some work-related stress, but your inner sense may be calm and cool, which may help you balance everything. You may enjoy every moment in work and domestic life. Parents' health is now okay, and you may hear some good news from your siblings.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may feel unhappy. Some old health issues may arise, making you impatient. You may spend your hard-earned money on buying worthless stuff. You are advised to control your temper. Love birds are advised to avoid discussions on worthless topics; otherwise, there might be a break-up.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you are likely to enjoy your domestic and professional life. You may become polite to the people around you, which may help in the smooth completion of your work. You may find some new sources of earnings, which may boost your savings. You may also plan to renovate your house or office.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you may be busy on the work front. With the help of blessings, you are likely to implement some new innovations in the work. You may be ethical and follow rules in your dealings with the people around you, which may give you inner peace and strength.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you may be satisfied with your responsibilities at work. You may plan for a short work-related trip. You may also visit some religious place to maintain your inner peace and positivity. Your gurus may show you the right path, which may give you clarity regarding your goals.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today you may feel dull, so it is advised to keep your mind cool. It is a golden rule for you to think twice before taking any action. You may need to travel to recover your money. You are also advised to avoid going for adventure tours. Students are advised to go for in-depth study to achieve success. You may also be attracted to the occult.

KIDZONE

Parvathi S Babu, 8 Years, Bright Public School

Preetham S, 9 Years, Kendriya Vidyalaya

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
20: [12, 112, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 212, 312, 412, 512, 612, 712, 812, 912]

BULL'S EYE
right, FIGHTER, free, FREIGHT, treat, right, gift, great, heart, regift, rate, rift, thief

FAST FIVE

S	A	D	D	O
E	G	E	S	T
T	A	C	I	T
A	D	I	E	U
D	E	R	M	A

QUOTE UNCODE
A minute's success pays the failure of years.

SUDOKU

3	4	6	2	5	7	8	1	9
2	1	9	6	8	4	3	5	7
5	8	7	1	3	9	2	4	6
8	9	3	4	2	1	7	6	5
7	5	4	8	6	3	9	2	1
1	6	2	7	9	5	4	3	8
4	7	5	9	1	2	6	8	3
6	2	1	3	7	8	5	9	4
9	3	8	5	4	6	1	7	2

ALPHA TRIANGLE
A, AR, Ear, Rage, Glare, Argyle, Gallery.

GO FIGURE
Easy
4 + 6 − 9 + 9 = 10
Medium
4 + 7 + 1 × 2 = 24
Hard
5 − 7 + 2 + 4 = 4

RIDDLER
The number 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 0 on a US keyboard when you hold the shift button down.

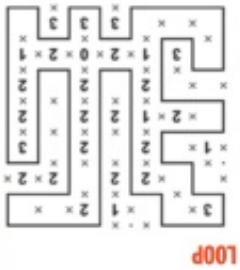
MENSA PUZZLE
15. Add the top and left-hand numbers and divide by 4: 47 + 13 = 60/4 = 15

QUICK

STRIKE OUT

KAKURO

LOOP



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